Coherent x-ray scattering using undulator radiation at the ESRF

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We report on a simple approach to producing a high coherent flux x-ray beam for small angle scattering studies at the Troika beamline (ID10) of the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility. In this case the longitudinal coherence length of the beam, which is inversely related to the energy bandpass, can be reduced due to the small optical path length difference of the scattering. By using mirrors and filters to cut unwanted energies from the undulator harmonic structure, we are able to produce a high flux (\sim 5x10° photons per second through a 5-micron-diameter pinhole at 8 keV) beam with a bandpass of a few percent. The qualities of this beam have been measured by analyzing static speckle patterns from an aerogel sample imaged by a directly illuminated CCD camera. The intensity, speckle size, and visibility or contrast is compared for different beamline configurations. Similar information is also found from dynamic studies of colloidal systems, using both the CCD system as well as hardware correlation of the signal from a scintillator.